

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 3-9,13-26, 31-34, 38, 39, 43 and 44 are pending in the application. Claims 3-9,13-26, 38 and 39 are allowed. Claims 32 and 33 are objected to. Claims 31, 34, 43 and 44 are rejected.

Claims 3-9,13-26, 32-34, 38 and 39 remain in the application. Claims 32-34 are currently amended. Claims 31, 43 and 44 have been deleted.

Claim Objections

Claims 32 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 32 and 33 have been amended. In particular, claims 32 and 33 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 32 and 33 are now in proper form for allowance, and favourable reconsideration is kindly requested.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 103

Claims 31, 34, 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke (5,139,334) and Yamaguchi et al (EP 714,025) and further in view of Uetani et al. (5,205,965).

Claim 34 has been amended. In particular, claim 34 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 34 has been further amended to recite “wherein the molecules are substances for one of bleaching pulp, textiles, and food substances, said molecules selected from the group **consisting of** sulfite, chlorine dioxide, and chlorite.” The applicant has removed hydrogen peroxide from the group of molecules, and replaced the term “including” with “consisting of.” Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 34

defines subject matter that is patentably distinct over Clarke and Yamaguchi et al. in view of Uetani et al.

In view of the above arguments and in view of the amendments to the claims, the applicant respectfully submits that the claims currently pending in the instant application are in proper form for allowance.

Now new matter has been added.

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of the amended specification.

Please charge the amount of \$84.00 for payment of one additional independent claim to Deposit Account No: 50-1142.

Please charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 50-1142.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Fre', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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